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NPIC/TDS--
8 November 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting Concerning the [redacted], Chip Comparator Funding Situation 25X1A

ATTENDEES: [redacted] 25X1A

1. At 0900 hours on the 8th of November the above individuals convened in the Patio room at the request of [redacted] to discuss the pending increased funding request of [redacted] for the 405AM and 405B Chip Comparators. The meeting generally preceeded along the line of the six questions previously circulated thru [redacted] (copy attached) 25X1A 25X1A 25X1A

2. The financial investment was reviewed with [redacted] as outlined on the "Chip Comparator Financial Status," (copy attached). In addition to approving the request funds of [redacted] a problem exists as to what budget the funds could be appropriated from. The P&M Staff was assigned the responsibility of making this determination. Some discussion evolved pertaining as to whether the funds would be obtained from class 25 or 31 funds. [redacted] stated that the 5 504B comparators were purchased from class 31 funds and that the additional funds should therefore come from class 31 funds. [redacted] stated that since the situation was somewhat indefensible, he did not want the matter getting out of the building and that we would therefore end up having to use FY-68 Funds. [redacted] also requested that cost estimates, for providing the necessary building facilities and spare parts, be prepared and furnished him as part of the total financial commitment. Not discussed but an integral part of the Chip Comparator installation cost is the cost of relocating the [redacted] Film Reader/Chip Selection Device to another location. To move the reader will require relocating existing facilities as well as having the manufacturer disassemble and reassemble the machine. 25X1A 25X1A 25X1A 25X1A 25X1A 25X1A

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3. Concerning the time delay in formally telling [redacted] 25X1A of our concern over the performance of the comparators, it was pointed 25X1A out to [redacted] that TDS had been attempting to resolve the difficulties informally on a working level prior to the letter of 8 July and that 25X1A [redacted] personnel were sufficiently aware of our problems with the comparators prior to that time, but had made little progress in resolving the difficulties. The lapsed time was also the direct result of internal difficulties such as, 1) the delays in delivery of peripheral equipment necessary to fully operate the equipment, 2) the restrictions on available computer time and check out software, and 3) the lack of qualified test and evaluation personnel.

4. In relation to the question of who in the Center is responsible for checking to certify if equipment operates properly, considerable discussion evolved. Traditionally the project monitor, on a R&D item, is responsible for the acceptance of the equipment and coordinates the operation of the equipment with the operational component when and if they receive it. It was generally agreed that the procedures for overall acceptance of equipment, other than R&D items, and determination of its utilization or effectiveness were largely undefined. It was suggested that TDS be assigned the responsibility of monitoring the equipment procurement program and the subsequent utilization of that equipment. [redacted] 25X1A however, recommended that function more properly belonged in the P&M Staff because of their overall planning and budget responsibilities. [redacted] and 25X1A [redacted] stated that they were working out procedures to control the 25X1A procurement of off-the-shelf equipment before it gets on the approved shopping list.

5. Concerning the operational status of the comparators, the prototype, 405AM, has been operational in IAS since the 23rd of August without any maintenance adjustments or downtime. Two of the 405B's

25X1A are now back at [redacted] being reworked and modified and are tentatively scheduled for redelivery to the NPIC about the 27th of November. The remaining three machines are still at the Center in a disassembled form awaiting shipment back to the manufacture. It was also pointed out that the prototype 405AM has only been field modified and that to insure optimum performance it must also be returned to the factory for permanent modifications.

6. Concerning the Chip Comparators utility with future systems, it was explained that the comparators are basic mensuration devices similar to

25X1A the existing [redacted] Comparators and are capable of performing precision mensurations on any conventional photographic material within the same

25X1A limitations as the [redacted] Comparators, except for format size (for the status of the present system capabilities see the attached memo from Chief, IPD).

7. It was generally accepted that the rational for purchasing the 405B Chip Comparators prior to testing the 405A prototype was a direct resultant of the fiscal year problem of allocating uncommitted funds. There was no discussion concerning testing procedures on the prototype, or the certification of the acceptability of the prototype. The problem of acceptance testing

25X1A in general was discussed [redacted] stated that he preferred to have performance and acceptability tests of complicated instrumentation requiring special building facilities or extensive relocating costs, performed in the area in which the equipment would eventually be used operationally.

25X1A 8. [redacted] raised the questions as to whether we had a requirement for all six Chip Comparators. [redacted] stated that they had not 25X1A attempted to use the IAS comparator to assist in determination of their requirements but believe that they had a firm requirement for both machines. TID also stated that they had a definate requirement for their machine.

9. The meeting broke up with the understanding that there was little choice but to approve the expenditure of funds as requested and that the P&M Staff had the responsibility to take the necessary action.

25X1A 10. After the meeting, [redacted] briefed [redacted] on the planning 25X1A and development of other NPIC sponsored chip handling equipment, showing the realtionship of the Chip Comparators with the other equipment.

Technical Development Staff

Attachments
Distribution
1 copy each of the draft to the attendees for comments